Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 14 and 15.

Please add claims 23 and 24.

Please amend claims 4 and 11-13 as indicated below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A physiologically acceptable aqueous solution that comprises recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor, wherein said solution further comprises from 0.1 mM to 50 mM EDTA.

2. (Original) The aqueous solution of claim 1, wherein the concentration of EDTA is 0.1 to 5 mM.

3. (Original) The aqueous solution of claim 1, wherein the recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor is sargramostim.

4. (Currently Amended) The aqueous solution of claim 3, wherein the EDTA concentration is 5 mM, and wherein the solution has a pH of 7.4 and further comprises 10 mM TRIS-HCL, 40 mg/ml mannitol, and 10 mg/ml sucrose.

5. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing a stablized, physiologically acceptable, aqueous solution of granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor, which comprises adding EDTA at a concentration of 0.1 to 50 mM to a solution

comprising 500 μg/ml granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor, 10 mM TRIS-HCL, 40 mg/ml mannitol and 10 mg/ml sucrose.

6. (Original) The process of claim 5, wherein the EDTA is added at a concentration of 5 mM.

7. (Original) The process of claim 5, wherein the recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor is sargramostim.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) A therapeutic method comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of an aqueous solution of granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor according to claim 3.

10. (Previously Presented) A method for treating inflammatory bowel disease comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of the aqueous solution of claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) The~~A~~ method for treating inflammatory bowel disease of claim 10 wherein the recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor is sargramostim.

12. (Currently Amended) The~~A~~ method for treating inflammatory bowel disease of claim 10 wherein the inflammatory bowel disease is Crohn's disease.

13. (Currently Amended) The~~A~~ method for treating inflammatory bowel disease of claim 12 wherein the recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor is sargramostim.

14-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) A lyophilized formulation of recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor, wherein the formulation, when hydrated, produces a physiologically acceptable aqueous solution that comprises a therapeutically effective amount of a recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor and EDTA in a concentration of about 0.1 mM to about 50 mM.

17. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 16 wherein EDTA is present in a concentration of about 0.1 mM to about 5.0 mM.

18. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 16 wherein the recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor is sargramostim.

19. (Previously Presented) The formulation of claim 16 wherein the aqueous solution comprises a therapeutically effective amount of sargramostim, EDTA in a concentration of about 0.1 mM to about 5.0 mM, 40 mg/ml mannitol, 10 mg/ml sucrose; and 1.2 mg/ml TRIS-HCL.

20. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing a lyophilized formulation of recombinant granulocyte colony-stimulating factor, which comprises:

a) adding EDTA at a concentration of about 0.1 mM to about 50 mM to a physiologically acceptable aqueous solution comprising 500 μg/ml recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor, 10 mM TRIS-HCL, 40 mg/ml mannitol and 10 mg/ml sucrose formula; and

b) lyophilizing the aqueous solution.

21. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 20 wherein the recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor is sargramostim.

22. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 21 wherein the EDTA is added at a concentration of about 5 mM and wherein the aqueous solution has a pH of 7.4.

23. (New) The aqueous solution of claim 1 further comprising benzyl alcohol.

24. (New) The aqueous solution of claim 4 further comprising 1.1% benzyl alcohol.